



"The Grapevine" February 2024

Calendar Events

Communion Sunday/ Deacon's Offering
Sunday, February 4

Men's Circle of Faith (Agnes Lea Lounge)
Saturday, February 10 @ 830am

Men's Breakfast (Four Corner's Restaurant)
Saturday, February 17 @ 8am

Office Closed – President's Day
Monday, February 19

True Worshipers 12 Free Concert
(FPC Sanctuary)
Saturday, February 24 @ 7pm

Guest Preacher – Michele Weisenberger
Sunday, February 25

ZEPHYR POINT FAMILY CAMP
JUNE 16-21, 2024

\$ 275 – Adults \$ 250 – Kids

2024 "Per Capita"

\$ 29.30/ Per Member



Flower Calendar



February 4 – Daisy Hamilton

February 11 – Matt & Sandi Clarke

February 18 – Open

February 25 – Rick & Liz Hanson

Happy Birthday To:

2 Marie Patterson

4 Dr. Sam Oh

8 Charlie Mendoza
Connor Winkler

10 Kalani Schreiner

16 Kyle Link

17 Joel Pena

22 Carolyn Gamino

27 Roy Patterson

Jim Kruse

28 David Flanigan



11 Alex & Darline Pineda

24 Rick & Liz Hanson

Congratulations, Chinedu! F.P.C is so proud of you!

" Chinedu Nwadike, a 2018 graduate of Kimball High (and a member of the First Presbyterian Church), made the dean's list for the fall of 2023 semester at University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kansas. To make the dean's list a student must finish the semester with a grade point average of 3.5 or better. The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth".

FEBRUARY = BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month was created to focus attention on the contributions of African Americans to the United States. It honors all Black people from all periods of U.S. history, from the enslaved people first brought over from Africa in the early 17th century to African Americans living in the United States today.

It was first celebrated during the second week of February in 1926 to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and abolitionist/editor Frederick Douglass (February 14). In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded to a month. So, each February, National Black History Month serves as both a celebration and a powerful reminder that Black history is American history, Black culture is American culture, and Black stories are essential to the ongoing story of American history.



**FINANCIAL SUMMARY
DECEMBER 2023**

DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY	YEAR TO DATE
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		
BALANCE FORWARD		\$ 23,443.69
INCOME	11,036.00	189,276.48
EXPENSES	16,659.95	200,763.93
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ (5,623.95)	\$ 11,956.24
<u>DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE</u>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		
SPECIAL FUNDS		\$ 11,498.90
IN-AND-OUT FUNDS		13,278.74
DEPOSITED WITH THE SYNOD OF THE PACIFIC		531,690.52
DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE		\$ 556,468.16

A Message from our Pastor:

Dear Brothers & Sisters of Tracy First Presbyterian Church,

We now move from Christmas and Epiphany into the season of Lent. We start with Ash Wednesday. This has been a traditional time for personal awareness of Jesus' Lordship in our lives. It is a day of confession of personal sins and a time of personal renewal by the gracious and loving set of Jesus Death and Resurrection. The 40 days of Lent provide the time and space in our busy lives to move as a church through awareness of spiritual renewal of our relationship to our Lord, on another, and the larger world that we are a part through God's creation and redemption.

The wonderful gift of the Lenten Season is that it connects our personal faith with the community of God's people, our brothers and sisters in Christ! The first Sunday of Lent focuses on the new beginnings. Week two reminds us of the difficulties that are visible and a real part of what it means to follow Jesus as our Lord. The third week deals with the law of God. The readings are about the law and wisdom of God and our lives which can be a stumbling block for humans. Week four is a wake-up call to remind us of a tragic loss and the ultimate joy will be part of our journey with our Lord. Week five passages of scripture for the week include the reality that God calls to a personal relationship and this relationship with the Holy One then will be cost related with the Covenantal relationship to our Lord & Savior.

The Lenten Season gives the gift of not only to walk with Jesus but also to grow and reflect on this powerful gift of life with all the joys, and sorrows, responsibilities and the eternal presence of our Loving Lord and Savior.

Have a great Lenten Season! See you in worship!

Pastor David

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## Deacons' Doing's

The Deacons provide a ministry of caring, love, compassion, prayer and community service. Deacons are elected by the members of the church and ordained into this ministry. Each Deacon is elected for a three-year term. The Deacons prepare communion, and serve communion to shut-ins. They make sure the sanctuary is in order and decorate it for special occasions. Cards are sent to members who are ill, for sympathy and congratulations. They support community ministries. We tend to the Tracy Interfaith Barrell. This month we are collecting Peanut Butter & Jelly. We thank the church members for their support in these ministries.

Your current Deacons are Sandra DeVos, Marietta McLellan, Ellen Opie, Nancy Rusch, Sandi Clarke, Rich Clinton, Tricia Winkler, and Colleen Colenso.

If you have any needs the Deacons can help with, please contact one of the Deacons, Pastor David Hill, or the church office, 209-835-3247.

## Session

At the first called meeting of the Session each year the Session reviews and reaffirms various operating policies. The Session reapproved the Standing Rules and reviewed the provisions for a quorum at meetings. They were also appraised of the status of the mandatory reporter certification for church officers. They approved the annual statistical report that is submitted to the Office of General Assembly, and were advised of the 2024 *per capita* apportionment, which is:

- General Assembly ..... \$ 9.80
- Synod of the Pacific ..... \$ 5.22
- Presbytery of North Central California .... \$14.28
- Total *per capita* apportionment ..... \$29.30

*Per capita* is the amount that all congregations in the denomination are charged for each member on the church's rolls to support the general and administrative costs of the denomination.

Elected as officers of the civil corporation were:

- President ..... Julie Vaishampayan
- Vice President .... Alex Pineda
- Secretary ..... Robert Opie
- Treasurer ..... Tricia Winkler

Appointed to chair the standing committees of the Session were:

- Building and Grounds Committee ..... Don Burnett
- Christian Education Committee ..... Harold Reich
- Evangelism and Membership Committee ..... Alex Pineda
- Fellowship Committee ..... vacant
- Mission Committee ..... vacant
- Personnel Committee ..... Shirley Gahm
- Stewardship and Finance Committee ..... Julie Vaishampayan
- Worship and Music Committee ..... Fang Xie-Burnett

Since there is no Fellowship Committee, each member of the Session will assume the responsibility of hosting fellowship after the worship service. This will be a month-long commitment for each Session member, with the host being responsible to pick up cups and load the dish washer, as well as emptying and cleaning the coffee pots. On the first Sunday of each month a cake will be provided to recognize those celebrating a birthday or anniversary. On other Sundays, if individuals bring something to eat, it will be shared; otherwise only coffee and tea will be available.

The Session elected Shirley Gahm and Julie Vaishampayan as chair and vice chair respectively of the Nominating Committee and Alex Pineda and Robert Opie were elected to represent the congregation as Presbytery Commissioners.

## Free Concert – True Worshipers 12

Saturday, February 24 @ 7:00 pm

Last Year, March of 2023, the First Evangelical Korean Church (FEKC) hosted a very special and amazing worship musical group called True Worshipers 12. We were invited and treated to a great evening of classical, a bit of jazz and opera music.

True Worshipers 12 consists of worship ministers who come from prestigious music schools such as Julliard, Royal Academy of Music, Canada Hamburg and LA MI Jazz.



The ministry name, True Worshipers, comes from the Gospel of John 4:23-24. The number 12, symbolizes twelve disciples serving the nations and churches like the twelve tribes. They are a ministry that serves churches and believes that in worship, God heals and restores with the power of the Spirit. They offer a mini-concert (classic, pop and jazz) and share testimonies of God's grace.

Our FEKC faith brothers and sisters are inviting us and are again graciously hosting the True Worshipers 12 praise team. So, mark your calendar for a soulful and uplifting evening of great music.

- When: Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Venue: First Presbyterian Church of Tracy

So, bring your friends and family for a night of joy and worship with a focus on the "Renewal of Spiritual Vitality" and the restoring of our Spiritual energy lost during Covid-19.

**You DO NOT want to miss out!**

<https://www.trueworshippers12.com>